

**Family Support Council Meeting**  
**June 4, 2011**  
**Watertown, SD**

**Members Present:** Lois Gotheridge, Lori Westby, Michelle Greseth, Rhonda Eidet, LaVerne Rens, Lora Barthelman, Cindy Taber, Beth Hosek, Julie Ashworth, Deborah Docken.

**Members Absent:** Lori Larson, Laura Aeschlimann, Kim Benning, Stacey Mancuso, Kris Kratovil, Kelly Newman, Julie Johnson Dresbach

**DHS Staff:** Carol Ruen, John New, Halli Holden

**Quorum:** Yes

**Welcome**

The council provided updates as to happenings in their lives. Michelle Greseth recently received her PhD. Julie Ashworth provided the Council with an update on Home of Our Own. Things are going well and they are planning an open house June 18, 2011. Lighting the way is happening in the very near future.

**Approvals**

The Council identified a few corrections from the March 2011 meeting minutes. The corrections will be made and new copies provided to the Council members. Lori Westby made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections, seconded by Deborah Docken, motion carried. LaVerne Rens made a motion to approve the agenda as written without corrections or additions, seconded by Julie Ashworth, motion carried.

**DD Council Updates**

John New, for Arlene Poncelet, provided an update on DD Council activities. John New also provided the Council with a survey from the DD Council and asked this be returned to the DD Council.

**DHS Updates**

Carol Ruen, Assistant Director, provided updates as follows:

Laurie Gill is the new Secretary of DHS;

Dan Lusk is the new Director of Division of Developmental Disabilities;

Budget issues;

NCI data;

DHS Summer study; and

Upcoming activities with the CHOICES Waiver.

Lora Barthelman requested NCI Data and Summer Study activities are on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Domestic Violence**

Halli Holden provided the Council with the updated Domestic Violence handout the Council reviewed at the previous meeting. Julie Ashworth provided information on another shelter in Sioux Falls, My Sister's House, and requested this be added to the handout. The Council suggested finding out what shelters assist with protection orders

and restraining orders. This information will be obtained and the handout updated. Once these items are updated the Division will provide this handout to all Family Support Coordinators to distribute to Family Support 360 participants.

### **Family Support Updates**

John New provided updates to the Family Support 360 program. For the first time Autism is the number one primary diagnosis. This information lead to a discussion regarding the potential need for new supports and/or services to support individuals with a higher IQ score that do not meet CHOICES or Family Support 360 Waiver eligibility criteria. Julie Ashworth informed the Council she is going to the national Autism Speaks Conference in July and will provide an update at the next Council meeting. The Family Support overall budget was reduced by 4.5% which will come from general funds and will not see a reduction in federal funding. John New discussed the upcoming Family Support 360 Waiver renewal and requested the next meeting be held in person in Pierre versus Webinar. The Council agreed to this change and the meeting will be held September 16 – 17, 2011.

### **Family Support Council Elections**

Elections for officer positions were held. Nominations were made from the floor and following are the results which carried with voice vote approval:

**Chairperson:** LaVerne Rens

**Vice-Chair:** Rhonda Eidet

**Secretary:** Lois Gotheridge

The newly elected officers will assume their roles effective with the next meeting or if there is a need to convene the Council. Michelle Greseth and Kelly Newman have chosen not to be re-appointed to the Family Support Council. The Council will have two open seats July 1, 2011.

### **Upcoming Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Pierre September 16 – 17, 2011.

Agenda items will include:

- NCI data;
- Summer Study update;
- Family Support 360 updates; and
- Division of DD updates.

A motion to adjourn at 10:45 am was made by Lori Westby and seconded by Cindy Taber. The motion carried via voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lora Barthelman, Chair

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Date